

REMARKS

In the Action, claims 1-16 are rejected. In response, independent claims 1 and 13 are amended. More specifically, claims 1 and 13 are amended to clarify that the input unit selects and allocated buffer time for the temporary storage in the buffer area of the storage device and that the temporary allocated buffer area corresponds to the allocated buffer time. This feature is disclosed in paragraph 0007 of the specification. Accordingly, the amendments are supported by the specification as originally filed. In view of these amendments and the following comments, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

The Rejection

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0118321 to Sparrell et al. Sparrell et al. is cited for disclosing a video apparatus capable of storing a video signal in a buffer for temporary storage and storing the video signal in a long-term storage unit.

Sparrell et al. does not disclose the video recording/reproducing apparatus as claimed since Sparrell et al. does not disclose an input unit for selecting a function in the video recording/reproducing apparatus, selecting an allocated buffer time and outputting a command. Sparrell et al. further fails to disclose a main control unit for temporarily storing a received video signal in a temporary allocated buffer area corresponding to the allocated buffer time in the storage device. Accordingly, the claims are not anticipated by Sparrell et al.

According to the invention, if a user selects a desired time section on the screen as shown in Fig. 4A, image signals are stored in the buffer for the duration of time corresponding to the desired time section. Sparrell et al. on the other hand stores the image signals in the buffer for the duration of time corresponding to a playback time of a program of interest. This has no relation to the claimed invention.

The system of Sparrell et al. is directed to a digital video recording for live-pause recording and playback that does not use the small circular buffer as in the prior devices. The method of Sparrell et al. selects a program guide source which provides program length information about a program of interest and converts the program length information into a corresponding buffer memory size. The video program of Sparrell et al. determines the buffer size according to information provided by the system. As disclosed on page 10 of the specification, one aspect of the invention is to select the length of time available on the buffer from a buffer time menu which is displayed together with the main menu and submenu. Sparrell et al. does not disclose or suggest this feature.

Sparrell et al. also fails to disclose a main control unit for temporarily storing a video signal in an allocated buffer area in the storage device when a command for temporary storage is received from the input unit and for recording the temporary video signal in a long-term storage area of the storage device according to a set recording format as in claims 1 and 13. Thus, claims 1 and 13 are not anticipated by Sparrell et al.

The claims depending from claims 1 and 13 are also allowable as depending from an allowable base claim and for reciting additional features of the invention that are not disclosed or suggested in the art of record. For example, Sparrell et al. does not disclose setting a new buffer area in a non-recording area of the storage device upon receiving a command for long-term recording and records attribute information of the long-term recorded video signal in an attribute information recording area as in claim 2, the main control unit incorporating the remaining storage space in the buffer area into the non-recording area as in claim 3, in combination with the features of claim 1.

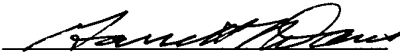
Sparrell et al. also does not disclose a main control unit copying and recording the temporary stored video signal in the non-recording area of the storage device and deleting the video signal temporarily stored in the buffer area as in claim 4 in combination with the features

of claim 1. The Action refers to paragraphs 0027 and 0038 of Sparrell et al. These passages do not specifically disclose the main control unit copying the temporary video signal in the buffer area and recording in a non-recording area of the storage device. As disclosed in paragraph 0041 of Sparrell et al., the buffer memory that is used to initially store the program is then used as the long-term memory. Thus, Sparrell et al. does not specifically disclose copying the temporary video signal in the buffer and storing or recording in a non-recording area as claimed.

Sparrell et al. also does not disclose recording the attribute information as in claim 5, receiving a command signal for deleting video temporarily stored in the buffer area as in claim 6, an interface unit mounted in a main body to receive the command transmitted from the input unit as in claim 7, the input unit including an external input unit as in claim 8, the external input unit being a remote controller as in claim 9, the apparatus including an interface unit mounted in the main body and including an light receiving part for receiving infrared signals as in claim 10, the specified video signal source of claim 11, or the storage device including a hard disc drive as in claim 12, in combination with the features of claim 1. Claims 14-16 are also allowable as depending from allowable claim 13 and for reciting additional features of the invention. Sparrell et al. does not disclose a storage device control method where a new buffer area in a non-recording area of the storage device is set and recording the temporarily stored video signal of a previous buffer area in the long term basis and recording attribute information in a set attribute information recording area as in claim 14, copying and recording the temporarily stored video signal from the buffer area in the non-recording area of the storage device and deleting the temporary stored video signal as in claim 15 where the input unit being external of the video recording/reproducing apparatus as in claim 13, in combination with the features of claim 13.

In view of these amendments and the above comments, claims 1-16 are submitted to be allowable over the art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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